

**GLASTONBURY TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, MARCH 13, 2018**

The Glastonbury Town Council with Town Manager, Richard J. Johnson, in attendance, held a Regular Meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the Council Chambers of Town Hall, 2155 Main Street, Glastonbury, Connecticut.

1. Roll Call

Council Members

Mr. Thomas P. Gullotta, Chairman

Mrs. Jill Barry, Vice Chairman

Dr. Stewart Beckett III

Ms. Deborah A. Carroll

Mr. Kurt P. Cavanaugh *{arrived 7:05p}*

Ms. Mary LaChance

Mr. Lawrence Niland

Mr. George P. Norman

Mr. Whit C. Osgood

1. Roll Call.

(a) Pledge of Allegiance.

Led by Chairman Gullotta

2. Public Comment.

Mr. John Langmaid of 2200 Main Street said he was a new member of the Recreation Commission and even though they approved pursuing a replacement of Grange, given the public interest, he advocated for a more comprehensive look at aquatic needs for the town.

Ms. Ginny Kim of 169 Lakewood said that she has four high school swimmers and have used all the pools in town including the Grange. She advocated for a year-round facility speaking to the study and support from USA Swimming. She invited all to a meeting to be held March 15, to gather input. She said she thought the fall referendum should include an option for a year-round facility.

Mr. Cavanaugh arrived at the meeting at 7:05pm.

Mr. Gus Constantine, Board of Finance Chairman, and Jared Soper Board of Finance Vice Chairman offered to answer questions about their budget action. Mr. Cavanaugh explained that the Board of Education conveyed the Board of Finance reasoning in making cuts but wanted to hear from the Board of Finance directly. Finance Vice Chairman Soper said that on the town side, they added money to the healthcare insurance plan and lowered the pension investment assumption. Regarding the investment assumption, he said that while they are on the leading edge, there are towns who are lower and one that did it all at once. He reviewed the capital projects saying that there is insufficient funding hence their recommended increase. He added that they also recommend bundling projects for referendum. Finance Chairman Constantine added that they also felt they should keep up with inflation which is \$6-7M per year. Finance Vice Chairman Soper said they reduced the Board of Education budget by \$800K saying that one member suggested money coming back from the state this year should go to healthcare that was left unfunded this year. He continued saying that pulling out Eastbury, a one-time savings, the budget was a 3% increase. Finance Chairman Constantine added that from a taxpayer standpoint, he questioned affordability.

Ms. Carol noted that they received information on the cuts but no detail about from where they should come from the view of the Board of Finance. Finance Vice Chairman Soper said that the \$640K was discussed as money coming back from the state that should be allocated to healthcare and thus removed from the proposed budget and that some members felt they could get more revenues from the LINKS program. He noted that they can look at line items but the Board of Education takes the full budget amount and spends at their discretion. He said that there is a balance in the lunch program with a surplus which offered opportunity for savings. Mrs. Barry said that with LINKS piloting for the first year and being highly specialized, it seems unfair to assume higher revenues. She noted a disconnect that the town budget was increased to cover healthcare but for the Board of Education, it was decreased assuming money from the state would cover it. Finance Vice Chairman Soper said that the town fully funded healthcare and they felt if money was coming from the state to the Board of Education, it should be used to honor current liabilities before other things. Mrs. Barry said that she understood the Board of Education was splitting the premium increases over two years.

Mr. Norman suggested that if they think of healthcare as a single pool, they should consider it like OPEB. Chairman Gullotta said it was a great idea for the future and suggested Mr. Johnson and the Superintendent put together a proposal for current years. Dr. Beckett noted that the budget does speculate at revenues on both the town and education side. Chairman Gullotta thanked the Board of Finance members for attending adding that in the focus of the Board of Finance on “what can we afford”, it is helpful to get information from them on why or why not.

Finance Vice Chairman Soper said that it is helpful for the Board of Finance to have a 5-year plan from the Town Council.

3. Special Reports.

(a) Presentation and discussion concerning 5-year Capital Improvement Program.

Mr. Johnson reviewed his memo and associated materials provided to the Council on the subject dated March 9, 2018. He explained that he excluded OPEB and the dog fund. He continued saying that he recommended \$5.25M and there was \$240K overfunding. He said that the Board of Finance suggested allocating that \$240K and adding another \$760K to increase the transfer to \$6.25M. Mr. Osgood said there is a strong argument to increase the transfer. Mr. Gullotta said that they also will be discussing criteria for sending projects to referendum.

4. Old Business.

None

5. New Business.

(a) Action on 2018-2019 General Fund, Special Revenue Funds and Capital Improvement Budgets for presentation at the March 21, 2018 Final Budget Hearing.

(1) Recommend General Fund Appropriations and Transfers.

Motion By: Mr. Niland **Seconded By:** Dr. Beckett
BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council recommends an appropriation of \$41,866,003 for the 2018-2019 General Town Budget for presentation at the March 21, 2018 Final Budget Hearing.

Amendment By: Dr. Beckett **Seconded By:** Mr. Osgood
BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council hereby amends the motion on the floor appropriating \$41,716,003 for the 2018-2019 General Town Budget for presentation at the March 21, 2018 Final Budget Hearing.

Disc: Dr. Beckett said he suggests increasing the base by \$400K for the town, decreasing the Board of Finance budget by \$150K, not decreasing the investment assumption beyond 6 3/4 and reducing CIP by \$250K. Chairman Gullotta said he may agree at the final hearing but wasn't

prepared to make changes tonight. Mr. Osgood said that he thought they should send to public hearing what most closely reflected what the total number and total impact on taxes. A discussion ensued.

Result: Amendment and second withdrawn.

Disc: Mr. Osgood said that he supported increasing the budget and that the town could use it in the current year. He also expressed support of a lesser reduction of the investment assumption.

Result: Motion passes unanimously {9-0-0}

Motion By: Mr. Niland

Seconded By: Dr. Beckett

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council recommends an appropriation of \$104,866,982 for the 2018-2019 Education Budget for presentation at the March 21, 2018 Final Budget Hearing.

Disc: Chairman Gullotta said that there may be bi-partisan agreement at the next meeting. He said that there have been discussions about how to handle the education budget given the unprecedented challenges by the state. He said that he doesn't agree with only allocating to the Board's budget what is received from the state. He asked the representatives from the Board of Education if they were to get less funding from the state than expected, if they would work with the town. Board of Education Chairman Susan Karp said that she was there with only one other member and didn't have a quorum but would say that they would absolutely work with the town. Mr. Osgood said that he understood the \$640K cut but not \$800K adding that the Board of Education is not obligated to give money back and they should understand how they would handle state cuts more than a statement that they would work with the Council.

Amendment By: Mrs. Barry

Seconded By: None

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council amends the motion on the floor appropriating \$105,266,982 for the 2018-2019 Education Budget for presentation at the March 21, 2018 Final Budget Hearing.

Result: Motion to amend fails without a second.

Disc: Mr. Niland and Mrs. Carroll both indicated that they didn't disagree but wanted to understand the whole budget.

Result: Motion carries 8-1-0 with Mrs. Barry opposing.

Seconded By: Dr. Beckett

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council recommends an appropriation of \$15,467,804 for the 2018-2019 Debt and Transfer Budget for presentation at the March 21, 2018 Final Budget Hearing.

Disc: Mr. Osgood said that at the next meeting, he would suggest they reduce this by \$250K saying that the Board of Finance did an excellent job but he would support a slightly lower amount.

Result: Motion passes unanimously {9-0-0}

(2) Recommend General Fund Revenues, Transfers and Use of Fund Balance.

Seconded By: Dr. Beckett

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council recommends 2018-2019 General Fund Revenues and Transfers in the amount of \$162,200,789 for presentation at the March 21, 2018 Final Budget Hearing.

Result: Motion passes unanimously {9-0-0}

(4) Recommend Capital Improvement Program.

Seconded By: Dr. Beckett

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Glastonbury Town Council recommends the 2018-2019 Capital Improvement Program in the amount of \$7,905,000 for presentation at the March 21, 2018 Final Budget Hearing. Funding will be provided as follows:

Capital Reserve Fund	\$6,880,000
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Sewer Sinking Fund	\$1,025,000
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Result: Motion passes unanimously {9-0-0}

(3) Recommend Special Revenue Funds.

Seconded By: Dr. Beckett

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council recommends 2018-2019 Special Revenue Fund Appropriations and Transfers and Special Revenue Fund Revenues and Transfers for presentation at the March 21, 2018 Final Budget Hearing as follows:

- SEWER OPERATING FUND \$3,074,504
- RECREATION ACTIVITIES FUND \$1,582,849
- POLICE PRIVATE DUTY \$403,625
- RIVERFRONT PARK FUND \$242,466

Result: Motion passes unanimously {9-0-0}

**(5) Setting of Town Council Final Budget Hearing for 7:00 p.m. on
Wednesday, March 21, 2018 – Council Chambers.**

Motion By: Mr. Niland **Seconded By:** Dr. Beckett
BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council sets a Final Budget Hearing for 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 21, 2018 in the Council Chambers of Town Hall, 2155 Main Street, Glastonbury, to consider the 2018-2019 General Fund (Town Operating, Debt & Transfer, Education), Special Revenue Funds (Sewer Operating, Recreation Activities, Police Private Duty), and Capital Improvement Program.

Result: Motion passes unanimously {9-0-0}

Mr. Cavanaugh left the meeting at 8:25pm.

**(b) Action on proposed land acquisition – 50+ acre Rose parcel – Matson Hill (refer to
Town Plan & Zoning Commission and Board of Finance; set public hearing).**

Mr. Johnson reviewed maps and his memo to the Council on the subject dated March 9, 2018.

Motion By: Mr. Niland **Seconded By:** Dr. Beckett
BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council hereby approves the following concerning proposed Town purchase of the 50+ acre Rose Parcel, Matson Hill Road:

1. Refers the proposed acquisition to the Town Plan & Zoning Commission for a report and recommendation under CGS Section 8-24.
2. Refers the proposed Town acquisition and a \$1.925 million appropriation and transfer under the Reserve for Land Acquisition and Preservation to the Board of Finance for a funding report and recommendation.

Schedules a public hearing for 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 27, 2018 in the Council Chambers of Town Hall, 2155 Main Street, Glastonbury, to consider proposed Town acquisition of the 50+ acre Rose Parcel, Matson Hill Road and a \$1.925 million appropriation per the Reserve for Land Acquisition, all as described in a report by the Town Manager dated March 9, 2018.

Result: Motion passes unanimously {8-0-0}

Chairman Gullotta said that this begins what they hope is a string of acquisitions of mostly development rights adding it is one reason why people move here and it keeps taxes down.

Dr. Beckett stated that he has family members and employees that live off this road so he recused himself from the following matter.

(c) Action on proposed land acquisition – 43± acre Chamberlain Lane open space (refer to Town Plan & Zoning Commission and Board of Finance; set public hearing).

Mr. Johnson reviewed his memo to the Council on the subject dated March 9, 2018.

Motion By: Mr. Niland **Seconded By:** Mr. Osgood
BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council hereby approves the following concerning proposed Town purchase of the 44± acre Chamberlain Lane parcel:

1. Refers the proposed acquisition to the Town Plan & Zoning Commission for a report and recommendation under CGS Section 8-24.
2. Refers the proposed Town acquisition and a \$530,000 appropriation and transfer under the Reserve for Land Acquisition and Preservation to the Board of Finance for a funding report and recommendation.

Schedules a public hearing for 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 27, 2018 in the Council Chambers of Town Hall, 2155 Main Street, Glastonbury, to consider proposed Town acquisition of the 44± acre Chamberlain Lane property and a \$530,000 appropriation per the Reserve for Land Acquisition, all as described in a report by the Town Manager dated March 9, 2018.

Disc: Mr. Osgood said this was an excellent acquisition and as part of the Great Pond Stewardship, would ask the Town Council to declare its intent to leave as open space. Mr. Norman and Mr. Niland expressed appreciation to the Great Pond Stewardship for the partnership.

Result: Motion passes unanimously {7-0-0}

Dr. Beckett returned and was recognized for the remainder of the meeting.

Chairman Gullotta declared a conflict and recused himself for the next agenda item and Mrs. Barry took over as chair.

(d) Action on proposed land acquisition – 47.5 acre Howe parcel – Keeney Street development rights (refer to Town Plan & Zoning Commission and Board of Finance; set public hearing).

Mr. Johnson reviewed his memo to the Council on the subject dated March 9, 2018. Mrs. Barry noted that through all the discussions, Chairman Gullotta had always recused himself.

Motion By: Mr. Niland **Seconded By:** Dr. Beckett
BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council hereby approves the following concerning proposed Town purchase of development rights to the 47.5± acre Howe Parcel – Keeney Street:

1. Refers the proposed acquisition to the Town Plan & Zoning Commission for a report and recommendation under CGS Section 8-24.
2. Refers the proposed Town acquisition and a \$775,000 appropriation and transfer under the Reserve for Land Acquisition and Preservation to the Board of Finance for a funding report and recommendation.
3. Schedules a public hearing for 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 27, 2018 in the Council Chambers of Town Hall, 2155 Main Street, Glastonbury, to consider proposed Town acquisition of development rights to the 47.5± acre Howe Parcel and a \$775,000 appropriation per the Reserve for Land Acquisition, all as described in a report by the Town Manager dated March 9, 2018.

Result: Motion passes unanimously {7-0-0}

6. Consent Calendar.

None

7. Town Manager's Report.

Mr. Johnson reviewed his report to the Council on the subject dated March 9, 2018. He noted that the state is offering to install pedestrian signs in the crosswalks. A consensus was reached to accept the offer without need for a public hearing. Mr. Norman noted that he had reported from the CRCOG that there may be an issue with the signs. Mr. Johnson noted the request for the

town to take up the Tobacco 21 initiative to purchase of tobacco products until the age of 21. Chairman Gullotta and Mrs. LaChance expressed support. Mr. Osgood noted that it isn't on the agenda.

Motion By: Mrs. LaChance **Seconded By:** Mr. Niland
BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council hereby adds to the agenda consideration of Town Council support of initiative to prohibit Tobacco Sales to anyone under the age of 21.

Disc: Mr. Osgood was not in favor of the initiative saying that anyone old enough to go off to war should be able to purchase tobacco products. He also said that it should be on the agenda with notice and suggested it be set for the future. Mr. Norman agreed it should be on a future agenda.

Result: Motion and second withdrawn.

Mr. Johnson noted the wells testing positive for uranium with Manchester water offering to extend the system at the expense of the residents. Mr. Gullotta suggested people get their wells tested.

8. Committee Reports.

(a) Chairman's Report.

Chairman Gullotta expressed appreciation for the love and support he and his wife have received regarding the loss of his son.

(b) MDC.

Mr. Osgood referenced the news of the favorable court decision. He also said that there are millions in capital projects for non-member towns including Glastonbury.

(c) CRCOG.

Dr. Beckett said that the latest meeting was cancelled due to snow.

9. Communications.

None

10. Minutes.

(a) Minutes of February 27, 2018 Regular Meeting.

Motion By: Mr. Niland **Seconded By:** Dr. Beckett

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council hereby approves the Minutes of February 27, Regular Meeting as presented.

Result: Motion carries {7-0-1} with Chairman Gullotta abstaining due to being excused.

11. Appointments and Resignations.

(a) Appointment of Alternate Council Clerk.

Motion By: Mr. Niland **Seconded By:** Dr. Beckett

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council hereby appoints Susan Lauzier to succeed Yolanda O'Lenick as Alternate Clerk of the Council for the 2017-2019 Town Council.

Result: Motion passes unanimously {8-0-0}

(b) Appointment of Christopher Griffin to the Capitol Region Council of Governments-Regional Planning Commission (Regular Member to RPC).

Motion By: Mr. Niland **Seconded By:** Dr. Beckett

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council hereby appoints Town Plan and Zoning Commission Member, Christopher Griffin, to serve as a member on the Capitol Region Council of Governments-Regional Planning Commission.

Result: Motion passes unanimously {8-0-0}

(c) Appointment of Jake McChesney to the Capitol Region Council of Governments-Regional Planning Commission (Alternate Member to RPC).

Motion By: Mr. Niland **Seconded By:** Dr. Beckett

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council hereby appoints Town Plan and Zoning Commission Member, Jake McChesney, to serve as an alternate member on the Capitol Region Council of Governments-Regional Planning Commission.

Result: Motion passes unanimously {8-0-0}

12. Executive Session.

None

13. Adjournment

Motion By: Mr. Niland

Seconded By: Mr. Cavanaugh

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glastonbury Town Council hereby adjourns their regular meeting of March 13, 2018, at 8:53 pm.

Result: Motion passes unanimously {8-0-0}.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Meanix Miller

**Kimberly Meanix Miller
Recording Clerk**

**Thomas Gullotta
Chairman**